THE CLIPBOARD

Statements of Witnesses - Nat A. PINKSTON,
Deposition - April 9, 1964 (6 H 334-6)

PInkston is a special agent of the FBI in Dallas, 24 years old, who was sent to the Depository to investigate the finding of the clipboard. This was on Dec. 2, 1963. (p.334)

Kaiser took him to where Kaiser said he found a clipboard. Kaiser told him "he had left it there" - this is the form of Ball's question, at that late date I presume there was no point in saying untouched, but in any event it wasn't said.

Pinkston then testified:

"Mr. Pinkston. The clipboard was genarally in the northwest corner of the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository. It was on the floor behind the books, against the wall of the stair well.

Mr. Ball. There were some book cartons in front of it, were there?

Mr. Pinkston. Yes." (p.335)

This is completely meaningless. Eleven days had elapsed and God alone knows what could or could not have happened in those 11 days. Of course, Ball is trying to make out that the clipboard was hidden. Why should Oswald have had any reason for hiding it?

There is a logical reason for it being in that general area which Ball ignores: The northwest corner is where the stairs and the elevators are. It is a logical place for Oswald to have left it while he was at lunch if he intendwd to return and fill further orders.

Now Pinkston does identify orders that he found on the clipboard. He specifies invoice numbers, titles, etc. It is clear that there was no excuse for not askingthe employees of the Depository who had already testified whether, in fact, the books on the order were stored on the sixth floor. All were Scott, Foresman orders. (p.335)